Scott. II-29—25,503—6-12-24.

Public Works (192 5) Department.

Misc SERIES.

G.O. No. ~~1319. W~~
1319. W.

DATED 26-8-25

[Despatch Abstract.]

Buildings - South Kanara - Hosangadi Police lines - Constructing a well - Unprofitable outlay - written off.

C.F. 32.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Received .... Registered ....

From (Name) W.G. Molesworth Esquire,
(Designation) Superintending Engineer,
Post Box ...., (Station) Coimbatore Circle.
Telegraphic Address ....

CHIEF ENGINEER AND SECY. TO GOVT. P.W.D.
6 SEP 1924
MADRAS

To The
Chief Engineer, Public Works Department,
MADRAS.

No 1444 dated 1st Septemeber 1924.
608 Z.90 4ea

Enclosures ....
492W
12-4-19

Spare Copies ....

*Subject:-- Collapse of the well in the Hosangadi Police lines, South Kanara District.

In forwarding herewith the report received from the Executive Engineer, West Coast Division regarding the collapse of the well in the Hosangadi Police lines, South Kanara District I request you will be good enough to obtain sanction of Government to the unprofitable outlay of Rs.955-7-0 spent on the work.

2. The Executive Engineer submitted an estimate for Rs.1500/- for sinking a new well 7' Diameter with an alternative estimate for reconstructing the collapsed well of 8' diar. recommending the proposal to sink a new well as both the proposals would cost the same amount (Vide his letter No.1084 S.E. dated 27-8-23 enclosed). The Executive Engineer has not reported the subordinate responsible for the use of inferior ~~in~~ stones and other defects in the construction of the well. The cost of ~~each~~ such of the materials as could be recovered from the old well is not yet reported by the Executive Engineer. A further report on these will follows.

3. The Inspector General of Police has since reported vide His letter No.R.C. 612 H & B dated 21-6-24 that the reconstruction of the collapsed well is not required and so the estimate sent by the Executive Engineer West Coast

Coast Division for sinking a new well has been recorded.

Sd. W.G. Molesworth, 1-9-24.
Superintending Engineer,
Coimbatore Circle.

(By order)
N. A. Parasurama Aiyar
3-9-24

T/1-9-24.

Manager, Coimbatore Circle office.

Encls.

1 copy of No. 748-E, d/10-7-22 from
Sub Dvl.Officer, Northern Sub Dvn.

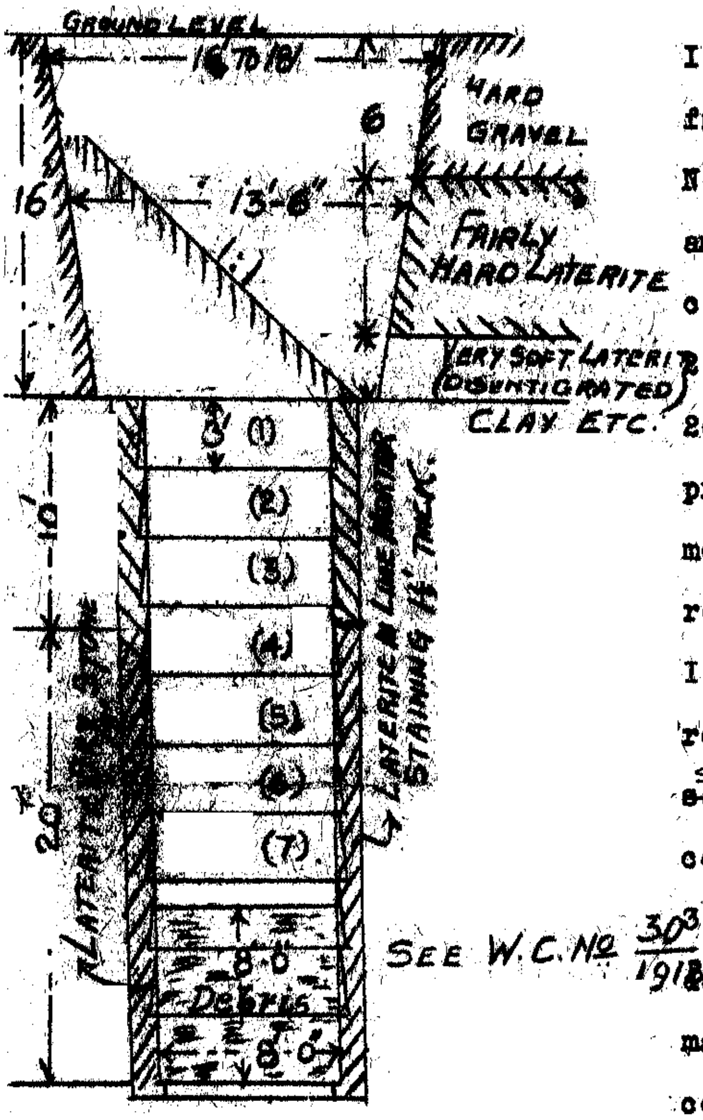
1 copy of No.875-SE, d/4-8-22 from
Exc.Engineer, West Coast Dvn.

1 copy of No.1320-SE, d/8-12-22 from
-do-

1 copy of No. R.C.612/H & B of 21-6-24.

Copy of letter No.748 E dated 10th July 1922 from the Sub Divisional Officer Northern Sub Division P.W.D. Mangalore to the Executive Engineer, West Coast Division Calicut.

Constructing huts for one head and 3 constables with a well at Hosangady - Final Bill and revised estimate for - Divisional No.308 S.K. dated 26-4-22.



I submit herewith a regised estimate for Rs.5800/- with the ~~pan~~ plan of well W.C. No.30/1918 showing it as last constructed and also the final bill in favour of the contractor V.Parameswarayya.

On Divisional No.308 S.K. dated 26-4-22 I proceeded to Hosangady for the prepration of the final bill measurement for which were taken but having had reason to differ from my predecessor I had to insist upon the debris fully removed from the well and examining the ~~sectioning~~ steining ~~beefre~~ before finally exonerating the contractor and submitting the final bill.

3. On 11-5-22 ~~E~~ I had observed the debris standing in well as shown in the marginal sketch, and that my predecessor could not have fully examined the steining except by shifitng the debris at A. I could therefore take my predecessor's report No.147 E dated 22-2-22 as final. I regret that his endorsememt to section officer of the above asking him to have the debris removed completely was not sent to him by this office until I observed and did it in No.473 S dated 10-4-22. The Section Officer did not realise the need for removing the debris ~~being~~ until I inspected the work on 11-5-22 when I insisted upon the debris being removed. It was very late in the season for rains had already commenced when I inspected the work again on 15-6-22 debris had been removed to 38' belww ground level and further work not being possible it had to be stopped. There is then still 8' of debris at bottom and the condition of the steining here is not knwon.

[illegible]

4. The well had been constructed fo [redacted]

of which the top most 16' of latrite in mortar stening 1' thick collapsed into the well with the parapit and the platform. Below the first step two stretch was fallen half round for a height of 2'. 2nd and 3rd step in fact. 4th and 5th corroded half round for a depth of about 8" and height of 2'. 6th step corroded for a legth of 4' ~~on~~ height of 1'6" and depth of about 8".

Those corrosions were caused by the collapse of the masonry debris against the stening which got crushed by the fall. The circular shape of the well is in fact but I notice that a large percentage of stones are softened by the crushing collapse of the debris or due to the poor quality of the stone from the Jalda hadi quarry which had been selected for the work. Though an experienced well sinker tells me that the corrosions can be repaired and the stening will stand I consider it is no good trying to repair the well. A single weak stone will suffice to cause the collapse. Therefore I have had to provide for the full reconstruction of the well.

5. We cannot entirely blame the contractor ; we have to share it with him.

In the first place the Jalda/Hadi quarry (See original estimate) was not a very good one. The stone is of poor quality specially for a well--Thickness of stening allowed 1 foot for the top 16' below ground level was inadequate. Again in an obviously damp situation lime mortar for stening was provided for and used instead of ~~sarki~~ Surkhi mortar. For filling in behind the stening there was no provision for gravel puddle tamped and consolidated and the poor quality clay excavated from the well was permitted to be used see No.147 E of 22-2-22. The last but not the least the system of rushing a well work is faulty; stones ought to have been got collected a season in advance of construction, and get weathered and dried.

6. I have nothing to complain about workmanship. The joints are found to be fairly close and stone dressed to template.

I have examined the Jalda Hadi quarry and find that the better quality stone in the middle strata was used for the huts and ~~in~~ instead of quarrying wider the contractor went deeper and used the poorer quality stone and the bottom for well! He would have found better quality by quarrying wider.

This is a Government quarry. (Ind.)W.J.D.

7. The well was completed in 3/21 and handed over to the Police department on 10-6-21. From the Sub Inspector's receipt dated 10-6-21 I notice that he had remarked that the lowest steps of the well had given way and the well collapsed on 15-7-21.

8. On perusal of measurement book I understand that the well excavation was completed, curb laid and first 10' height of dry stone stening constructed in May 20' and paid for in C.B.V.No. 23/6/20 C.C. No.4 dated 28-5-20. The next 10 ft. of stening was probably constructed after the monsoon of 1920, for it was paid for in C.C. No.7 dated 2-11-20. C.B. V.No.5 M of 11/20. First 4' height of latrite in mortar stening was constructed in January 21' and paid for in C.C. No.8 dated 18-1-21. C.B.V. No. 27 M of 2/21. The balance was completed by 3/21 and paid for in the last C.C. No.9 and part dated 29-3-21 C.B.V. No.52 M/3/21.

9 In conclusion I consider that the collapse of the well was primarily due to the inadequate thickness of the stening allowed for the top most height of 16' and lime mortar being used in steady surki mortar but immediately due to to the inferior quality of the stone also not sufficiently weathered and dried and due to the poor quality backing behind the stening which owing to stagnation of water round the well exerted extraoridnary pressure on the stening as explained in 147 E dated 22-2-22.

The Quarry was selected by Public Works Department busy in Govt. land and is also used by L.F. (Ind.) W.J.D.

10. On the light of the above I request you to deal with the final bill as you may deem fit.

11. Since the reconstruction can be done only next year I request permission to close the present estimate and suggest the sanction of the separate estimate for the reconstruction for which an abstract estimate is submitted. Early sanction is requested so that stones may be got quarried early and collected for drying.

Sd.K.R. Tombat,
Sub Divisional Officer,
Northern Sub Division P.W.D.
Mangalore.

T/1-9-24.

Copy of letter No.875 S.E. dated 4-8-22 from W.J. Davies Esq, Executive Engineer, West Coast Division Calicut, to the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle.

Subject:-- Collapse of the well at Hosangady South Kanara Dt.

Connection?

In continuation with the above work completed as per the plans and estimate sanctioned in G.R.No.9/1920 I am forwarding herewith a copy of South Kanara Sub Divisional Officers Report in detail with my remarks on the margin for your information. Since the work has been completed I propose to close the original estimate after final payment to the contractor and to sanction a fresh estimate for the reconstruction of the collapsed stening wall.

Kh 3-5

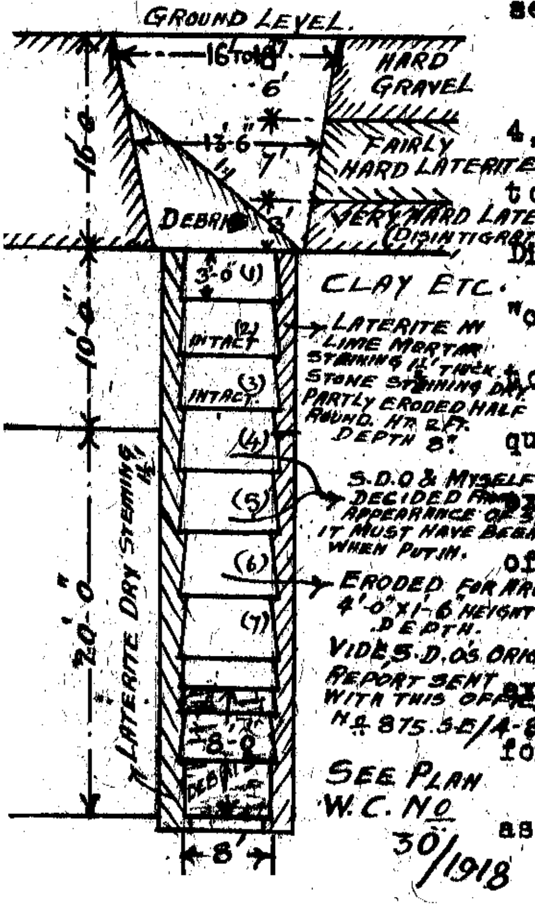
Copy of letter No.1320 S.E. dated 8-12-22 from W.J. Davis Esq, Executive Engineer, West Coast Dvn., to the Superintending Engineer Coimbatore Circle.

Subject:--Collapse of well Hosangady Police lines
Reference:-Your No.919 W.C. dated 10-11-22.

I inspected the well on 2-12-22. All the debris has now been removed except about 8 feet which is covered by about 6'-0" of water see sketch. Rings No.1,2,& 3 are intact.

The laterite stones forming the stening in rings 4,5&6 have crumbled away in places apparently due to softness of the stone. This is what the Sub Divisional Officer means when he used the expression "corrosion". The collapse of upper portion appears to be due mainly to two causes. (1) Inferior quality of stone used in stening (2) The width of excavation being much in excess of outside diameter of stening necessitating filling.

From local enquiry I find the practice is to excavate to slightly less diameter than necessary for finished outside diameter of stening and then as the stening is laid to cut away the back of


GROUND LEVEL.
16 TO 18'
6'
13'-6"
1/4
7'
3'
DEBRIS
HARD GRAVEL
FAIRLY HARD LATERITE.
VERY HARD LATERITE (DISINTIGRATED)
16'-0"
10'-0"
20'-0"
3'-0" (1)
(2) INTACT
(3) INTACT.
(4)
(5)
(6)
(7)
8'-0"
DEBRIS
8'
CLAY ETC.
LATERITE IN LIME MORTAR STENING 1½' THICK
STONE STENING DRY PARTLY ERODED HALF ROUND. HT 2 FT. DEPTH 8"
S.D.O & MYSELF DECIDED FROM APPEARANCE OF STONE IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOFT WHEN PUT IN.
ERODED FOR ARCH OF 4'-0"X1'-6" HEIGHT 8" DEPTH.
VIDE S.D.O'S ORIGINAL REPORT SENT WITH THIS OFFICE No 875.SE/4-8-22.
LATERITE DRY STENING 1½'
SEE PLAN W.C. No 30/1918

of excavation to fit the steining as closely as possible.

The stones taken out from the debris and placed on the top of well are not fairly hard but the stones in the steining having been under water throughout the monsoon have not hardened and it is extremely doubtful if laterite stone will harden under water or when kept damp. Before taking final action I propose to have the last 8'-0" of debris completely removed and if the steining at the bottom is unsound the whole steining will have to be reconstructed. This will be decided after my next inspection. At present I can only say that the steining from step 6 upwards must be reconstructed. In the meanwhile the estimate as prepared may be sanctioned. Another quarry has been selected and necessary stone will be prepared and dressed to template sufficiently in advance for it to become thoroughly hardened before use.

Copy of letter No.612/H & B 24 dated 21st June 1924 from P. Hannyngton Esq., Ag. Inspector General of Police to the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle.

Reference:- Your letter No.1225 M/44-B-6 dated 3rd/5th June 1924.

Grant under P.C.B. Minor Police.

I have the honour to state that the Nadapuram and Hosangady works are not required. The following works may be carried out from the grant of Rs.7500/- in the North Arcot Division.--

(1) well in memory of the late Khan Bahadur Chekutti Anakayam
(2) Sub Inspector's quarters at Pandikad
(3) Well for police lines at Palghat in the South Malabar Dt.
(4) Huts for 1 head constable and 4 constables at Kannavam in the North Malabar Dt.

2. The District Superintendent of Police has been asked to obtain plans and estimates from the Executive Engineer for item(3) at an early date. Your attention is invited to Judicial (Police) Endt. No.153 A-1 dated 18th January 1923 with regard to item (4)

T/1-9-24. 3/9/24

6

P.W.D.

C.No. 2433 W/B From the S.E. Coimbatore Circle No. 1444 W
Q

608.2.90.
dt. 4. 9. 24

unprofitable outlay - well in the Hosangadi Police lines

Endt No. 2433 W. dated 12.9.24

Referred to the A. G. Madras, for favour of remarks

11.9.24

8.9.24

11/9/24
Fol 8.

To The A.G. Madras 13 SEP 1924
with C.F. in original
to be kindly returned
with reply

Diarised
B
15.9.24

D.W.
13/9/24

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

O.F. 186–2,000–15-9-21.

CURRENT No.

WMB
25 FEB 1924
C. No. 2638

ENCLOSURES { Plans No.
Others No.

Total

SPARE COPIES.

Received ______ 192 .

Registered ______ 192 .

Passed on by Registering Clerk ...
" U.R. Clerk ... ...
" Referencer ... ...
" Record Superintendent ...
" Drafting Officer ...

Subject.

{Encls 4 sheets}

FORT ST. GEORGE, MADRAS,

No.

Dated the ______ 192

From

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL,
Madras.

To

~~THE CHIEF ENGINEER~~
THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, (General and Buildings & Roads)

SIR,

10

[illegible] good ground for [illegible] sufficient [illegible] Government [illegible] action in [illegible] discretion.

I [illegible],
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

J.H.C. Williams.

Deputy Administrator [illegible]

11

CAO 2433 Wks B From the S.E. Coimbatore Circle No $\frac{1444 W}{60 P.Z.90}$ of 4.9.24

2638 Wks B. From the A.G. Madras No W.D.7.16 W.C of 22.9.24

—

Memo No 2433 Wks B/24-2 of 8/10/24.

Unprofitable outlay – Well in Hosangadi Polic lines – South Kanara

With reference to P.1 C para 2 of the S.E.'s lette the S.E. is requested to submit a complete r on the case in order to enable the C.E. to dec whether a recovery s be made from the offic responsible for the use of inferior stones & othe defects in the construc of the well which led to its collapse

4.10.24

for C.E.

Rr sent 12/11/24

To the S.E. Coimbatore / Circle.

DESPATCHED 9 OCT 1924

I.D. Remind in one month

Diarised P.G.

C.F. 32.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

Public Works DEPARTMENT. 12

Received ______ *Registered* ______

From (Name) R. F. Stoney, Esquire,

(Designation) **Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle.**

Post Box ______, (Station) Coimbatore.

Telegraphic Address ______

To The Chief Engineer, P.W.D.,

Madras.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
Wks B
21 MAR 1925
696
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

No. [illegible], *dated* 18th March 1925.
608-Z-90.

Sir,

* Police lines, Hosangadi - South Kanara District - collapse of well - subordinates responsible for -- unprofitable outlay.

--- pp 13-15 [illegible]

Enclosures
1 copy of letter.
1 copy of statement.

Spare Copies ______

* Letter No.285-SE, dated 15-3-25 from C.Peddie, Esq., Executive Engineer, West Coast Division, to the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle.

* copy attached.

Copy forwarded to the Chief Engineer, P.W.D., Madras, with reference to his No.2433-Wks-B-24-2, dated 8-10-24, for favour of orders.

Sd. R.F.Stoney, 18-3-25,
Suptg. Engineer, Coimbatore Circle.

(True copy forwarded)
By Order

Manager, Coimbatore Circle office.

E.A.K./19-3-25.

Dc 3

C.F. 32.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

13 10C

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER IV CIRCLE
11209
17 MAR 1925

Received............................*Registered*............................

From (Name) C. Peddie, Esquire,

(Designation) Executive Engineer, West Coast Dvn.

Post Box............, (Station Calicut.

Telegraphic Address............................

MAR 17 1925

To The Superintending Engineer,

Coimbatore Circle.

No............., *dated*............192

Sir,

Enclosures............

Spare Copies............

Your Nos. 1444-W dated 4-5-24 & 674-W.C dated 15-10-24- Police lines Hosangadi (South Kanara District) collapse of well- subordinates responsible for unprofitable outlay.

It is reported that the reasons that led to the collapse of the well were (1) wider excavation of 17 feet diameter having been allowed as against 11 ft. sanctioned in estimate and plans and (2) inferior stones having been allowed for the steining of well.

(1) I am unable to place the responsibility on any officer or subordinate for having carried out wider -- excavation. As I gather from the records- both Divisional and Sub Divisional- that no permission was granted for such a deviation from the sanctioned plan and estimate. It appears therefore that the contractor himself did so for his convenience during the last stage of the work which was carried out between 17-1-21 and 25-3-21. During this period the work was inspected by the section Officer Mr. K. T. Kasturirangan only once viz. on 8-2-21. In this -- instance the section officer arrived at the station at 8 P.M. on 7-2-21 and left it at 9 A.M. the following day.

(2). The stones that were used for the entire steining of well are inferior having been cut from the lowest -- stratum of the quarry. The Sub Divisional Officer M.R.Ry K.[illegible] who inspected this quarry and others in the neighbourhood reports that good and hard stones were available on a higher level in the same quarry and if these had been used the well would not have collapsed. Therefore the departmental subordinates and Sub Divisional Officers did not exercised sufficient care in passing the stones brought at site before they were used on the steining of well. The officers and subordinates who are responsible for it are the following.

Sub Divisional Officers.

1. M.R.Ry. [illegible].Rangaswami Ayyangar, from 26-12-19 to 4-8-20
2. " P.S.Subramania Ayyar, from 4-8-20 to 18-1-21 & 19-3-21 to 24-5-21
3. " K. Vasudeva Shukla from 18-1-21 to 19-3-21

Section officers.

1. M.R.Ry. [illegible].Ramaswami Ayyar from [illegible]-4-16 to 10-10-20.
2. " K.G.Kasturirangan (not in the Department now) from 24-10-20 to 15- -21.

I enclose herewith a statement showing the stages of officers and subordinates who have executed and checkmeasured work at its different stages.

2. Disposal of materials of the collapsed well.

The Sub Divisional Officer reports that he actually tried to sell the materials in a public auction- but no one came forward to bid for them- as the materials are not required by the inhabitants of the village- though widest publicity of the sale was given through the Revenue Department village officials. It is reported that as the stones are of inferior quality- some of them having been greatly eroded by water, a major portion of them would get broken when the steining is dismantled. He expects therefore only 1350 serviceable soft and damp stones in addition to the well curb (14.90 cft) and the wooden cross beam (0.67 cft) which is now at the bottom of well covered by debris to a depth of about 12 feet. The value of these materials if recovered would amount to Rs.35/- as shown below- xxxxx while the actual cost of dismantling the steining by excavating earth all round in rear of steining is estimate to cost Rs.158 vide the subjoined comparative statement.

Cost of recoverable materials.

1. 1350 laterite stone @ Rs.30/- per 1000 ...	Rs.41- 0- 0
2. 1 Wooden beam for drawing apparatus viz. 0.67 at Rs.3 per cft. ...	2- 0- 0
C.O	43-0-0

	B.F. 43- 0- 0
3. 1 Well curb about 14.9 cft @ Rs.3-8-0 per cft.	52- 0- 0
	95- 0- 0

Departmental expenditure to be incurred in recovering materials.

1. Earth work excavation behind steining- 2100 cft at Rs.5/- per 100 cft. ...	105- 0- 0
2. 2700 stones-charges for removing & hauling up at Rs.1/- per 100	27- 0- 0
Total .. Rs.	132- 0- 0

I recommend therefore that the well be abandoned.

Sd. O.Peddie,
Executive Engineer, West Coast Dvn.

True copy forwarded
(By order)
12/3/25
Manager & Accountant.

Enclosure. 1 List.

M.K.N.11-3-25.

16

Public Works Department. West Coast Division.

Statement showing the names of Section Officers and Sub Divisional Officers who prepared bills and check-measured works at different stages of sinking a well for the Police lines at Hosangadi which forms sub work of the estimate for constructing Police buildings at Hosangadi.

Contract certificate No.	Measurement book No. & page.	Name of Section officers that took measurements of work done.	Date of measurement by Section officer.	Name of Sub Dvl. officer that check-measured work.	Date of check-measurement by S.D.O.
1	337/P-28-34.	Mr. S.Ramaswami Ayyar.	22-2-20.	Mr. R.Rangaswami Ayyangar.	22-2-20.
2	337/P-45-48.	-do-	23-3-20.	-do-	23-3-20.
3	337/P-49-52.	-do-	21-4-20.	-do-	21-4-20.
4	337/P-60-65.	-do-	28-5-20.	-do-	21-7-20.
5	337/P-89-90.	-do-	21-7-20.	-do-	21-7-20.
6	337/P-91-95.	-do-	18-8-20.	Mr. P.S.Subramania Ayyar.	4-10-20.
7	337/P-96-100. 336/P-60-61.	Mr. R.G.Kasturirangan.	2-11-20.	Mr. K.Vasudeva-Bhakta.	8--2-21.
8	336/P-70-75.	-do-	17-1-21.	-do-	8--2-21.
9	336/P-85-96.	Mr. P.S.Subramania Ayyar, Sub Dvl.Officer.	29-3-21.	Bill was prepared by Sub Dvl.Officer while he was in charge of section.	--
10	390/P-51-62.	Mr. Vasudeva Bhakta.	11-5-22.	Mr. K.R.Tombat.	11-5-22.

(further see next page)

Remarks.--

1 & 2. These 2 bills contain no measurements of work done in connection with "well". They appertain to Police lines only. Note.- Other dates on which Section Officer inspected work-- 8-1-20, 3-2-20 to 12-2-20 and 22-2-20.

2.

3. This bill contains measurements for excavation of well to a depth of 24 ft. only. No other work in connection with "well". This item was checkmeasured by the Sub Divisional Officer page 51 of measurement book No.337 - last line.

4. In this bill laterite dry stone staining for a depth of 10 ft. only over well curb was measured, but this item as also the -- remaining excavation of well done subsequent to the date of last check measurement of work, viz., on 21-4-20 were not check-measured by the Sub Divisional Officer though he did so in the case of the items under Police lines page 60-63. He had not done so apparently as the well was filled up as it was the height of

monsoon when he check-measured work, viz., on 21-7-20.

5. Here Sub Divisional Officer check-measured only one item of work, viz., Roofing over huts - page 89 - no further progress on well.

6. No work done on "well" since 28-5-20. Sub Divisional Officer checkmeasured work done in "Police lines" page 91-93 but he had not check-measured work done on well and billed for in C.C.No.4. Presumably the laterite steining of 10 ft. depth was submerged - weather being monsoonish then.

Note.- Work was inspected by Section Officer on 4-10-20 in company with Sub Divisional Officer.

7. In this bill another 10 ft. dry laterite steining was -- measured up in addition to 10 ft. billed for in C.C.No.4 which makes in all 20 ft. depth of dry laterite steining. Sub Dvl. Officer checkmeasured work done on Police lines - pages 96-97 but he failed to do so in the case of work done on "well" though the well was almost dry then (8-2-21).

K. Venkataraman Bhakta

8. Here a further depth of 4 ft. laterite in surki mortar was billed for above the height of 20 ft. dry steining billed for in C.C.Nos. 4 & 7 but the Sub Divisional Officer measured only 4 ft. height shown in this bill but not the 20 ft. height shown C.C.Nos. 4 and 7. Sub Divisional Officer could have check-measured all work done up to date as his predecessors could not have done so owing to well having been filled with water from 21-7-20 to 4-10-20.

Note.- Other dates the Section officer had halted at Hosangady are 18 and 19-1-21 and 8-2-21.

9. In this bill all the remaining items of work in connection with "well" were included. Though the Sub Divisional Officer had prepared bill for work done since 17-1-21 he has not checkmeasured work done prior to 17-1-21 and billed for in C.C.Nos. 3, 4, 7 & 8. As a Sub Divisional Officer he should have done it as there was no water in well at this time.

& P.S. Subrahmanyam
[illegible]

10. In this bill work done and paid for is only for a small length of leading drain (viz., excavation, concrete, laterite masonry and plastering with cement) and levelling site. Sub Divisional Officer had checkmeasured these items - but he had not check-measured many of the item of work under "well" which his predecessor failed to do so. The date on which the work was last check-measured was 11-5-22 i.e., the driest part of the year when there could not have been more than 3 ft. depth of water in well.

Note.- Work site inspected by section officer Mr. K.Vasudeva Bhakta on 20-7-21, 27 and 28-8-21 and 13-2-22.

E.A.K./19-3-25.

Rd

C.No.696 Wks B From the S.E. Coimbatore Circle No 5064 W / 6082-90 d/ 18/3/25

Unprofitable outlay - Well in Hosangadi Police lines South Kanara Dt.

Memo No 2433 Wks B/24-3 d 6/4/25

It is observed, that the S.E. has not made any recommendation on the report of the Ex. Engineer West Coast Dn. re the subordinates responsible for the unprofitable outlay. The S.E. is now requested to offer his remarks on the same at an early date.

M.A.
1.4.25

3/4

RR
4/4/25
For C.E.

To The S.E. Coimbatore Circle

Rd

F.D.
Rn 1-5-25

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

O.F. 186—2,000—15-9-21.

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES { Plans No.
Others No.
Total

SPARE COPIES.

Received ______ 192 .

Registered ______ 192 .

22341
11 JUL 1925

Passed on by Registering Clerk ...
" U.R. Clerk ..
" Referencer ...
" Record Superintendent ...
" Drafting Officer ...

Subject.

FORT ST. GEORGE, MADRAS,

No. V.O.483.W.C. *Dated the* 8th July 1925.

From

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL,
Madras.

To

~~THE CHIEF ENGINEER~~
THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I have the honour to invite a reference to Government Endorsement No.2433.Wks.-B/24-1 dated 12th September 1924 and this office reply No.U.O.F.166.W.C. dated 22nd September 1924 regarding certain unprofitable outlay incurred on the construction of a well in the Hosangadi Police lines and request to be informed of the orders [illegible] Government have passed on the case. The favour of an early reply is requested.

I.

Public Works Department.

From the S.E. Coimbatore Circle, No.564-W
608 Z 90
d/- 18-3-25.

C.No.2234 G1/25 From the A.G., Madras, No.V.O.483 W.C.
** d/-8-7-25.

Hosangadi Police lines- South Kanara Dt.
-well- construction- unprofitable outlay.

This is an old case. Mr. Peddie's report on pp 13-18 contains sufficient material on which orders can be passed as to the recoveries to be effected from the officers and subordinates responsible for the collapse of the well.

One of the causes in the failure was that excavation of 17 ft. diameter was done as against 11 ft. allowed in the sanctioned estimate and plans. Mr. Peddie states that the contractor made the deviation without permission and that no officer or subordinate was responsible therefor. This is a position which cannot be accepted. If the contractor deviated from the sanctioned plan, it was the business of the Department to have prevented him from doing so

No longer material

This part of the work was, it is observed, carried out between 17-1-21 and 29-3-21. During this period the work was inspected only once by the Section Officer (Mr. R.G. Kasturirangan). He arrived at the station at 8 P.M. on 7-2-21 and left it at 9 A.M. on the following day. If at all he inspected the work, it must have been perfunctory. The services of this subordinate were dispensed with on one month's notice for unsatisfactory work and he was relieved on 15-3-21 A.N.

Without waiting for any further report from the S.E., the C.E. may be asked to advise as to what portion of the unprofitable outlay in the case may be recovered from the officers and subordinates responsible and in what proportion it should be

recovered

recovered, as it will depend upon the degree of responsibility attaching to each.

PH
17.7.25

Secy

Yes.
And I ~~am~~ presume ~~that~~ S.E's reply to ref. issued in April has come to C.E. by now

20.7.25

To C.E. wo

Office of the Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

The SE's reply to the ref. made to him in April last has not yet been received. He was reminded once on 6-5-25. No subsequent reminder was sent as the file was transferred to Secrett. on 21-5-25.

Ch. no. W-2234 Hpo-1
20.7.25.

CHIEF ENGINEER
21 JUL 1925
1970
PUBLIC W. DEPARTMENT

Secy
22.7.25

2. Pages 13-18 C.F. contain all essential information. The main cause of collapse of the well is the use of inferior laterite. The latter is a variable material and there is a Cir.Memo of the C.E. enjoining that the maximum load allowable on laterite in mortar should be restricted to 3 tons per sq.ft. when the laterite comes from Nellore or Cannanore, but to only 2 tons for laterite from Cochin. In a newly opened quarry, laterite is cut out like cheese, and it takes a year or so of exposure to air before it gets to near full strength. This explains the remark in para 6 page 4 of C.F. that the better quality of stone (and therefore that more difficult to extract) was on the quarry surface, but the stone used in the well was cut from lower (and therefore softer) strata.

3. The quarry used was a Govt. one and probably the subordinates and S.D.Os concerned supposed that all stone from it was equally suitable. As a matter of fact such treacherous material really needs frequent test. This particular well was 46 ft. deep, and the dry stone at the bottom would have to sustain a pressure

A S.D.O. ought to know this: but I am aware that it is not an easy matter to detect bad laterite.
11.8.25.

pressure of about 3 tons per sq.ft. This needs a very good quality of laterite. Perhaps better selection of stone might have resulted in a perfectly safe structure, but whereas laterite in mortar is not usually safe for more than 3 tons a dry stone laterite steining would be less safe. The design therefore was slightly risky but would have been safe with granite in the bottom 15 feet of the well.

4/ On page 5 C.F., para 9 says lime mortar was used for the masonry part of the well, but on page 17, para 8 says that surki mortar was used. The latter report by the Executive Engineer may be accepted; surki mortar was the suitable material. I am of opinion that the expense of testing laterite before use anywhere would be far more expensive to Government than the risk of an occasional failure such as here exhibited.

5/ I am further of opinion that the employment of only one S.D.O. for the whole district of South Kanara is certain to lead to recurrence of such failures as he cannot possibly pay sufficient personal attention to all works scattered through his charge. This invites attention to the still more flagrant case of one S.D.O. for the whole of Malabar District. The simultaneous increase in territorial area of sub-divisional charge and reduction of T.A. must involve the probability of recurrence of such failures.

6/ Certain minor irregularities are noted on page 17. They did not contribute to the collapse. It is not possible to apportion blame and it would be unfair to penalize any of the officers concerned for what can at its worst be described as an error of judgment. The case is similar to one of ~~appeal admitted~~ revision of judgment against the decision of a judge, but the latter is not mulcted in the cost of the suit.

C.T.M.
31-7-1925

C.T.D.
9/8

6/8/25

Secretary to Govt., P.W.D. U.O.

SECRETARY TO GOVT.
3411 C
11 AUG 1925
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

P.W. CE's U.O No 1970 Wks/25-1
10. 8. 25.

4

Mr Mullings is inclined to go into generalities but laterite is a tricky mysterious material. On the whole I agree that this unprofitable outlay may be written off — no attempt be made now (after 4 or 5 years) to recover from the officers concerned

11.8.25

Fin. w

Fin 2864 Acts
15/8/25

PWD no DO 3411C-1 - 11th 8.25

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVT. 16 AUG 1925 FINANCE DEPT.

Finance (Acts)

Submitted that the proposal of the P.W.D. Secy at A above may be accepted. The amount to be written off is Rs 955-7-0. — vide para 1 of letter on page 1 C.F.

TEV 20.8.25 W 20.8.25

Agreed 21.8.25

Fin No
2867 Acts
21.8.25

PWD

Draft
21.8.25

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 3820 C 21 AUG 1925 WORKS DEPARTMENT

Draft Submitted.

22.8.25 22.8.25

5

I have readopted in a form more adapted to satisfy the Public Accounts Committee I hope. – Broadly speaking I think it is clear that ~~[illegible]~~ such collapses must be expected in a certain percentage of cases: they are common in a private well work –

24.8.20.

Cir: 24/8
R.W: 25/8

M2.

25/8/20

25/8/20

Scott. K 10 (a)—36,502—27-11-23. (6)

PW **DEPARTMENT.**

	Date.	Initials.
When received for Fair-copying.	26/8	
When copied		
When examined		
When signed		
When despatched		

Buildings - South Kanara. Hosangadi - Police lines - Constructing a well - Unprofitable outlay - written off

READ AGAIN G.O. No 492W, dated 12 4 1924
" " " " " 192

READ ALSO:-

C. No. , From the S.E. Coimbatore Circle, No. 1444 W / 608-2-90, dated 1 - 9 - 1924.
S.E. Coimbatore Circle No. 564 W / 608-2-90 - 18 - 2 - 25
" " "D" A.G. Madras No. 4834 W.G. 8 7 1925.
" " " " " " 192

ORDER.

No. 1319 W, dated 26 - 8 - 1925

The Gov. sanction the proposal to write off the sum of R955/71, being the amount of unprofitable outlay finally settled to have been incurred on the work of constructing a well in the Hosangadi Police Lines, South Kanara, in 1920-22.

2. The upper steining of the well collapsed owing mainly to the use of inferior laterite insufficiently weathered - It was taken from an approved Government quarry, but the contractor cut too deep. A subsidiary cause was perhaps that the well was made wider at the mouth than was provided for in the sanctioned estimate. - It was since

been decided not to attempt to reconstruct the weir.

3. The Gov. have considered whether the loss ~~[illegible]~~ due to the collapse can be properly ~~[illegible]~~ charged to any of the several officers concerned. I are come to the conclusion that it cannot. The ~~S.D.~~ section officer primarily responsible for allowing the contractor to make the weir wider than was provided in the estimate was got rid of soon after for unsatisfactory work. He was also primarily responsible for ~~the~~ passing the laterite that was used in the finishing stages of the work in 1921 (the part that collapsed).

24 5 21

27th
K.C.D.

2

The C.E. (R&B)
" A.G. Madras through the Finance Dept.
" Judicial Dept.
" Finance Dept.